10/580909

## PAPEO Rec'd PCT/PTO 30 MAY 2006 PATENT

DK-US040366

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Tadashi SAO et al.

Serial No.: New-Nat'l phase of

PCT/JP2005/009451

International filing date: May 24, 2005

For: BRANCHING PIPE JOINT AND

AN AIR CONDITIONER PROVIDED:

THEREWITH (As Amended)

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the subject application as follows.

Amendments to the Title begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 9 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the <u>Listing of Claims</u>, which begins on page 10 of this paper. Claims 1-14 are pending, with claim 1 being the only independent claim.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 16 of this paper and include one (1) attached replacement sheet.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 17 of this paper.

Serial No.: New - PCT/ JP2005/009451 Nat'l Phase

Filed: Herewith

## AMENDMENTS TO THE TITLE:

Please replace the title of this application with the following rewritten version:

BRANCHING PIPE COUPLING JOINT AND AN AIR CONDITIONER

PROVIDED WITH THE SAME THEREWITH